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The Site of Old "James Towne," 1607-1698. A Brief Historical and Topographical Sketch of the First American Metropolis. By Samuel H. Yonge. 151 pp., Illustrations, Appendix, and Map. The Hermitage Press, Richmond, Va., 1907.

This excellent monograph is due to the researches of Mr. Yonge who, as engineer under the direction of the U. S. Engineer Department, had charge of the erection of the water guard now protecting the western end of Jamestown Island. He accurately fixed a great many details of the ancient habitations and it would not be difficult to reconstruct Jamestown in wood and brick, just as it stood in 1676. The distinctive features of the work are the location of the town's site which was erroneously supposed to have been washed away by the river and the map of the town as it existed between 1607 and 1698 which Mr. Yonge, with great care, constructed from the ancient records.

In its best days "James City" was little more than a struggling hamlet, "holding besides a church and a few unostentatious public buildings hardly ever more than a score of dwellings and a larger permanent population than 100 souls."

A Grammar of the Bemba Language as Spoken in North-east Rhodesia. By Rev. Father Schoeffer of the Mission Community of the White Fathers. Edited by J. H. West Sheane, B.A.(Camb.), Native Commissioner, B.S.A. Company, N.E.R. Arranged, with Preface, by A. C. Madan, M.A., Student of Christ Church, Oxford. Pp. 72. Oxford, at the Clarendon Press, 1907.

A singularly arid presentation of the elements of that one of the Bantu languages which ought to shed most light upon the development of the prefixing mechanism in agglutinative speech. In method and treatment it partakes of the nature of those primers, science primers, literature primers and what not, which seem to have been decided upon definitely as the medium for the expression of English scholarship. The value of the form is highly problematical; it aims to present with sacrificing brevity the results of research to the very date of the title-page, it omits all the explanatory and intermediate steps through which alone education is possible. In common with the type, this work appears a quiz compend for those who have the assistance of the crammer in reading up for an examination, a thing poles asunder from knowledge of a subject. The author and editors have provided with almost paradigm brevity lists of the classes of nouns, the involved tenses of verbs, yet nowhere have they shed even a spark of light upon the reason for any of these changes of form. The student of Bantu will some time discover the radical value of the formative prefixes, will comprehend why root forms are modified at their front end, and the part played by *ablaut* in the linkage of concord, and with this knowledge it will be possible to write a grammar of Bemba which shall really teach the language. The present work taxes the memory, not the reason.

W. C.

Die Bewertung des Kakaos als Nahrungs-und Genussmittel. Experimentelle Versuche am Menschen. Von Dr. R. O. Neumann. iv and 124 pp., and 3 Tables. R. Oldenbourg, Munich, 1906. (Price, M. 4.50.)

A scientific investigation of the value of cacao as a food and as an article used in the manufacture of confections. The author is professor of hygiene at the University of Heidelberg. The book is based upon his experiments in feeding cacao to men.